

Kelly Stone . Kelly's KONE Konnection . 2538 Whitney Avenue . Hamden, CT 06518-3032

Secretary Jennifer Johnson  
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System  
20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20551

Dear Secretary Johnson,

Being in business for over twenty-five years, I have definitely learned a thing or two. In fact, I have weathered many storms, but this economic recession has hit pretty hard. There are many things that could be done to help ease the burden on small businesses, and the regulation of debit card swipe fees would be a good place to start.

When I started my business, costs were much easier to manage. My customers paid me mostly in cash, and I was simply charged a fee for my bank account. With debit and credit cards becoming so incredibly popular, it is nearly impossible to run a business without having the ability to accept check cards. Swipe fees have hit me hard, and I have spent a lot of my time shopping around for the best deal. I would prefer to put my energy towards generating business rather than negotiating fees.

The idea that small business ownership is the American dream still holds true. However, there are many more challenges that business owners face these days. It seems you get hit with taxes and fees from every direction, and relief is desperately needed. Helping small businesses by regulating swipe fees is a step in the right direction, and I am asking for your continued support.

Regards,



Kelly Stone